

THE SOMERSET HERALD.

AND FARMERS' AND MECHANICS' REGISTER.

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How and Why.

Fortune smiled not on our sires,
And Love, when we one became,
All thy dower was kind desires,
All my heritage the same.

Slender stock of worldly wealth
For the firm of man and wife!
But we both brought hope and health
To our partnership for life.

Add to this that wealth above
All that riches men miscall;
Mutual faith in wedded love,
Mutual sympathy in all.

Like that gem whose day dim'd spark
Flames a rosy sun at night,
Ever as my soul grew dark,
Thine has shed divinest light.

And wherever clouds have thrown
Shadows o'er those eyes of thine,
Has not then affection shone
With its tenderest beam upon mine?

Thus we promised, Love, to live,
And in memory's page we read
Few short-comings to forgive
Mutually in word or deed.

Thou hast been my joy in grief,
Balm in anguish, praise in blame;
And, same moments few and brief,
I to thee have been the same.

Let, then, single blessedness
Laud its raptures to the sky;
Hymen's bliss a double bliss,
And his sigh but half a sigh.

[From the Nat. Intelligencer.]

Further News FROM THE ARMY.

We received last evening New Orleans papers of the 25th and 29th ult., and extracts from offices of the Tropic, Picayune and Times, dated April 29, 11, A. M.

The Telegraph, Capt. Auld, arrived last night from the Brasos St. Iago, and four days later from the Army of Occupation. The steamship left Brasos St. Iago at 11 o'clock, A. M., day before yesterday, being only 28 hours out. The captain has kindly furnished us with some memoranda, stating that on the 19th inst., Lieut. Porter of the 4th Regiment, (son of the late Commodore Porter) being out with a fatigue party of ten men, (some of them wearing uniform) were fired upon when within a few miles of the camp.

Lieut. Porter and three of his men were killed in the attack, the rest of the party escaping, returned to the camp next day. It is stated that the guns of the Americans were wet and would not fire.—We see no explanation given why this party of soldiers should be ranging about the country with guns that would not fire.

Lieut. Van Ness informs us that nothing further had been heard of Col. Cross up to the 19th, but that the general opinion is that he is still a prisoner, though not at Matamoras.

About fifty of the American army have deserted and swam the river for the Mexican camp, but a number of them were shot as deserters while in the water. The whole number of American troops is estimated at between two and three thousand; and they are said to be in excellent discipline, and eager for an engagement with the enemy. Ampudia's forces are reported at between three and four thousand. It is rumored that Arista is about to supersede Ampudia in the command.

The New Orleans papers bring us later intelligence from the Army on the Rio Grande, including the melancholy news of the death of Col. Truman Cross, late of this city, whose fate will be deeply lamented by many of our citizens. It will be observed that, though some allowance should be made for exaggerated reports, the general complexion of the news is so warlike that it would seem almost impossible for the two armies much longer to avoid a direct conflict. We quote from the Picayune of May 1st.

The brig APALACHICOLA, Captain Smith arrived at this port yesterday from Brasos Bay, whence she sailed on the 24th ultimo, and reports that on the 22d she left Point Isabel, where Major Thomas, the acting Quartermaster, informed Captain Smith that the body of Col. Cross had been found about four miles from General Taylor's camp, on the Rio Grande. From the wounds upon the body it seems evident that he was killed by a lance. It was further reported that a person in Matamoras had acknowledged that he was the murderer, and had the watch and clothing of Col. Cross in his possession. Gen. Taylor, it is also reported, had made a formal demand for the murderer.

All open communications were permitted to pass by the Commandant at Point Isabel between that post and Matamoras.

STILL LATER.—The schooner CORNELIA, Captain Stark, arrived last evening from Brasos Santiago, whence she sailed on the evening of the 24th ultimo. She reports that about three hours before she sailed an express arrived from Gen. TAYLOR, stating that the commander of the Mexican forces had made a formal declaration to Gen. Taylor that if he did not move his army from the position he then occupied within thirty-six hours, the Mexican batteries would be opened upon them.

The same express also stated that at that time a body of two thousand Mexicans had crossed the Rio Grande near Rosetta—a small town about eight miles below Matamoras, on the west bank of the river—and taken up a position between Point Isabel and General Taylor's camp. The design of this movement is evidently to cut off the American troops from their supplies. A private letter was also received last evening from an officer in Gen. Taylor's camp, confirming in part the above report the Mexicans having crossed the river, but stating the number at one thousand only. There had previously been so many rumors to the same effect in the camp that little reliance was placed upon this one, which was first communicated by a Mexican, who was prudently detained by order of Gen. Taylor.

The accounts by the Cornelia confirm the melancholy news given above as to the fate of Col. Cross. He was found entirely stripped and wounded as before stated.

We have a letter from an officer in the camp, dated 21st ultimo, the postscript to which states, what we had no doubt of, that the Americans "had not retired one foot from the bank of the river, nor does the General mean to do any thing that can look like it." "Our flag waves over the waters of the Rio Grande, and we have a fixed battery of eighteen-pounders that can 'stop' any thing in Matamoras."

While upon the subject of the army, we may state that the steamer COL. HARVEY, which left here on Wednesday for Brasos Santiago, took with her a battery of ten long twelve-pounders, and a quantity of munitions of war, and that she was to take in more at Galveston for the same destination. The New York, which sailed yesterday for the same point, had a detachment of 180 men on board for the army, under the command of Lieut. McPHAIL. Four companies of infantry are expected in two or three days, who will be despatched immediately for the same destination.

The schooner Gen. Worth, twelve hours later from Brasos Santiago, and bringing, it is said, one day's later intelligence from Gen. Taylor's camp, was in the river late last night, eight or ten miles below the city, waiting for a tow. It is said a bearer of despatches from General Taylor is on board. Col. Hunt immediately despatched a boat to bring her up. Mr. Marks, attached to the American Consulate at Matamoras, is on board the Gen. Worth. There was a rumor, brought by one of the schooners last night, that our Consul at Matamoras, apprehending imprisonment from the Mexicans, had left his post and repaired to General Taylor's camp.

In addition to the above we extract the following from the Times, being the intelligence brought by the arrival here referred to by the Picayune:

"We are informed by Capt. ARWELL, of the schooner GEN. WORTH, who left Brasos Santiago on the 25th, that the day before (the 24th) the Mexican schooner JENATA was taken by the U. S. schooner FLINT, and sent into that port as a prize.

"We learn also from the same gentleman that the two thousand Mexican troops above spoken of as having crossed the Rio Grande, had captured several wagons, belonging to settlers, loaded with provisions for the American camp. The object of the enemy seems to be to intercept the supplies destined to the United States troops. It is more than probable that an engagement has taken place between them.

"The American Consul and Merchants, resident in Matamoras, had been ordered by General AMPUDIA to leave for Victoria, Tamaulipas—twenty-four hours having been allowed them to adjust their affairs. This is a violation of the terms of treaties existing between the United States and Mexico, it having been agreed on that, in the event of war, the citizens of the two countries, respectively, should not be molested in their affairs, but six months be allowed to those living in sea ports, and twelve months to those in the interior, to arrange for their departure.

"Our army is in good health and spirits, only one hundred and thirty-five being on the sick list. The latest accounts fully confirm the reports of the murder of Col. Cross and Lieut. PORTER."

From the Galveston News. Extra.

We may here remark that it is now understood as a fact that Ampudia is already superseded by Arista—from whom we may expect the next proclamation.

This General is admitted to be an officer of character, good sense and prudence, and whatever proceeds from him will be entitled to some consideration.

In our summary news by the steamship Telegraph we omitted to state what may be of some importance, viz.—That General Ampudia, in his answer to the inquiries of Gen. Taylor concerning Colonel Cross, expressly disavowed any acts of hostility that might have been or might hereafter be omitted by Mexicans on this side of the river, stating that all such acts were unauthorized by him or his Government.

The New Orleans Tropic of the 28th ult., has the following paragraph:

TROOPS FOR TEXAS.—The ship Indiana, Captain Burnett, which arrived here yesterday from New York brought out as passengers—Lieut. D. F. McPHAIL, 5th Infantry commanding Lieut. N. B. Russell of the 5th Infantry; Lieut. S. Hamilton, of the 13th do.; and 180 U. S. soldiers, destined to the army of occupation in Texas.

BLOCKADE OF THE RIO GRANDE. The New Orleans Times of the 29th ult. says:—

The schr EQUITY, arrived yesterday from the mouth of the Rio Grande, having been ordered off by the United States blockading squadron, composed of the brig LAWRENCE and the schr FLIRT.—The EQUITY sailed from this port on the 28th ultimo, with an assorted cargo for Matamoras.

The schr FLORIDIAN, hence for Matamoras, was likewise ordered off by the brig LAWRENCE, and arrived here last evening.

This confirms the accounts given some days since, that Gen. Taylor has issued instructions to the commander of the LAWRENCE to prevent any vessel entering the Rio Grande with provisions, etc., for the use of the Mexicans.

From California.

A correspondent of the New York Express, writing from San Diego, January 27, says:

"We are expecting every hour to hear of a war between this country and the United States, in which event this people are determined to fleece the Americans. California never was in a worse state than at present. Pio Pico continues Governor, and is still quartering at Cos Angeles. Castro is Commandant General of the north and is actually governor of that part of the coast—the civil and military power is at open war.

It is expected that Castro will come down with a force and depose the Governor, if possible, but of which there is considerable doubt, as Pico has a strong party to support him, and the foreigners have declared in his favor. The Provincial Assembly commences shortly, when it is the intention to declare California independent of Mexico. The best thing that can be done, provided it can be maintained. All the Missions are either sold or rented. But little or no rain has yet fallen, and the prospect is that one-half of the cattle will die for want of pasture."

By the New Orleans Picayune we have intelligence from California, several weeks later to the 18th of February, by a gentleman just returned from the country. He brings some information respecting Capt. Fremont. That gallant and adventurous officer reached Capt. Sutter's settlement, at New Helvetia, about the 1st of February last, with a force of about sixty mounted men, as we are informed. Capt. Fremont had been so fortunate as to discover a new route or pass, by which California can be reached by emigrants in sixty days less time than by the old route via Oregon. This new route is perfectly practicable for wheeled vehicles, and when it comes to be generally known, will give a renewed impetus to emigration to California. Capt. Fremont left his party near Capt. Sutter's, and proceeded himself to Monterey on a visit. There is a strong tide of emigration pouring in from the States by way of Oregon. The representations made in regard to the state of California confirm former accounts. Allegiance to the Central Government of Mexico is almost entirely thrown off. The Californians are distracted by dissensions among themselves, and stability under any rule or any form of government, is not to be counted upon among them.

The Crops.

Never in our recollection have we seen a more flattering appearance of a fine and plentiful harvest than which is every where presented to view in Ligonier Valley. Vegetation has clothed nature in her variegated and beautiful robes. The meadows promise plenty, and the orchards never were more beautiful. The farmers harvest hopes are bright, and ere long he will be bringing in his sheaves with songs of rejoicing and praise.—Free Press.

Wrongs may try a good man, but can not imprint on him a false stain.

Singular Discovery.

A letter has been received at Lloyd's from the Foreign Office, enclosing a copy of a despatch from the British consul general in Central America, dated:—

GUATEMALA, Dec. 3, 1845.

My Lord.—The master of the "Black Cat" of London, who has just arrived at Istapa, has given me the following note respecting the remains he found of the furniture of a vessel on Chatham Island, near the equator, in longitude about, 87.

Captain James Davie's account is as follows:—

NOVEMBER 10, 1845.

"Made the Gallipagos Islands; being calm, I went on shore on Chatham Island in search of water, but found none. At 8 A. M. returned on board. A sudden calm abreast of a deep bay; lowered my boat and went on shore myself, with four hands under arms. On arriving at the bottom of the bay, in pulling along the shore my attention was called to a number of water casks, 25 in all, 20 yards above high water mark.

I landed at the spot, took out the bungs, and finding the greater number of them full, rolled four of them down to the beach left them, as it still continued calm, and proceeded a short way into the woods with the boat crew, when I discovered three poles sticking in the ground; namely, two topgallant and lower studding sail's booms belonging to some unknown vessel of a bout 180 or 200 tons, on which the American flag was flying all in tatters.—Beneath them a heap of cinders, where there had been apparently a great fire, and the most valuable instruments to mariners had been destroyed and melted, namely, brass sextants, compasses, and log glasses; knives and forks, without number, totally burnt and destroyed, with the exception of one knife and fork with buckhorn handles, having the name of "Rodgers;" sailor's knives, scissors, sewing needles, packing ditto, fishhooks, ramrods, gun and musket locks, a heap of buttons melted together; brought away five supposed to be Spanish gold, date 1787, of the weight of two ounces.

"Leaving the spot, on running my sword into the sand, it held fast. I picked up a hoe near the same spot, in digging, where I ran my sword, I discovered a cask of beef, without pickle, in a putrified state; tripe, Indian corn meal, large white round peas, and a case of castor oil; a chest containing carpenter's and cooper's tools; some of them were brand new having the name of "Myers, east steel;" blocks and tins, cooking utensils, kettles, saucepans, two boilers, one of metal, the other of copper; muskets, without locks; a barrel of common gunpowder, 39 lb.; nine clamps of guns, tompons also five pumpkins, which were in perfect order, with the exception of one. Proceeded to the boat, and rolled four casks into the water, one of which being very large, and the tide having fallen struck on a rock and bilged; three I succeeded in getting on board. Made sail and proceeded on my voyage. At 10 30 A. M. the following day, Down's Island, which is marked "doubtful" in the chart, bore distant five miles. Latitude observed at noon, 33. 15 North, longitude 89. 30 West.

Your lordship may, perhaps, think it desirable to make this singular case known at Lloyd's for general information. At first I was inclined to think that this might be the Joven Cococilla, Peruvian schooner, which disappeared from the coast of Peru in November, 1844 with a cargo of goods of the value of 20,000 dollars, belonging to Mr. William Turner, British subject, and which was traced to Realego and Ponta da Arcuasia in this republic, where the captain, Santo Bastos, sold some of the cargo.

On the 12th of February last, she called in at Acajintha, and was supposed to have proceeded thence to the coast of Mexico, but the valuable nature of the object Captain Davie describes as having been so deliberately destroyed, and the fact that a quantity of gold was found melted with the rest of the things, forbid that supposition, and leave the cause of this strange occurrence beyond reasonable conjecture. I have, &c.

F. CHATFIELD.

A WHITE NEGRO.

The Newark Eagle says that an Alderman of that city has in his charge one of the most singular children ever seen. It is a boy six years old, born of parents perfectly black, and yet few of our white children are whiter than he. He has a thick broad heavy head, covered with a supply of short woolly hair, almost as white as the dripping snow. His cheeks are moderately tinged with red; his eyes blue and a little reddish; his nose short and flat, his lips thick and protruding; in short with the exception of color, he exhibits all the prominent characteristics of the African colored race. His brothers both older and younger, are perfectly black. His parents are respectable colored people. We understand they refused an offer of a large sum to permit him to be exhibited at the Museum in New York.

Wealth of the Mexican Churches.

Major Noah, in the N. Y. Times, speaking of the immense treasures the Mexican Churches contain, says:—

"In the cathedral of Puebla de los Angeles hangs a grand chandelier of massive gold and silver, not of ounces averdupois, but whole tons in weight, collected under the viceroys from the various tributary mines. On the right of the altar stands a carved figure of the Virgin, dressed in beautiful embossed satin—executed by all the nuns of the place. Around her neck is suspended a row of pearls of precious value, a coronet of pure gold encircles her brow, and her waist is bound with a zone of diamonds and brilliants. The candelabras in the cathedral of silver and gold, are too massive to be raised even by the strongest hand; and the Host is one mass of splendid jewels of the richest kind. In the Mexican cathedral there is a railing of exquisite workmanship, five feet in height and two hundred feet in length of gold and silver, on which stands a figure of the Virgin of Remedios, with three petticoats—one pearls, one emeralds, and one of diamonds; the figure alone is valued at three millions of dollars. In the church of Guadalupe there are still richer and more splendid articles, and in that of Loretto they have figures representing the last supper, before whom are placed piles of gold and silver plates, to represent the simplicity of that event. It is the same in all the churches and cathedrals in Mexico. The starving Lepro kneels before a figure of the Virgin worth three millions, and yet would die of want before he would allow himself to touch one of the brilliants in her robes, worth to him a fortune. About a hundred millions of dollars are thus locked up in church ornaments, while nothing is laid out for public education, roads, canals, public improvements, and true national glory."

IRELAND.

FROM THE LIVERPOOL TIMES OF APRIL 19.

We have still to record the receipt of alarming intelligence from the sister country, giving the detail of the approaching famine, which has already made its appearance in several parts of the country. Iriving with it a train of diseases, the results of which it is very painful to contemplate. Meetings are being held in various parts to devise means to arrest the progress of the evil, and to procure work and food for this now starving peasantry. A meeting of the citizens of Waterford was held on the 7th instant, the Mayor in the chair, to adopt measures to meet the existing destitution in the borough. A local relief committee was appointed. During the proceedings the following observations were made by the Rev. Mr. Sheehan:—"There was never such destitution in the city as there is at present.—Show me a mason, carpenter, or any other tradesman employed. The artisans have no employment, and consequently, they are in a state of destitution. I took the trouble of examining the reports of the Farming Institution, and I found that, in March, 1843, potatoes of the best quality were sold at 2½d. a stone; in 1844, at 4½d.; in 1845, at 3½d.; and now this year, they are as high as 7d. to 8½d. by retail that the poor buy them. As there is no employment, and prices are so very high, there must be extreme destitution." Committees have been formed at Ballyduff Killenker, and Balleborough, County Cavae. Accounts pour in upon us daily of the increasing distress.

In many places there are no potatoes left; in none will the fast perishing root be found after May. A Castlebar paper has the following, headed Famine in Mayo:—"This gaunt and long-dreaded scourge has at last broken forth. We have been written to from several parts of this extensive country by gentlemen, upon whose veracity we place the most implicit reliance, giving the most awful accounts of the sufferings of the people at this early period of the year. Even at Turlough, in the immediate neighborhood of this town, many families are at this moment we learn without food, and the wretched sufferers are in vain endeavoring to get provisions in time that their children may not die. At the market of Castlebar, on Saturday last, provisions, which were hitherto considered reasonable, rose to an alarming height—potatoes from 2½d. to 5d. per stone, and oatmeal from 13s. to 16s. per cwt.

The Potatoe Rot.

A farmer in Vermont last year, was behind all his neighbors in cutting the grass in his meadows. At night, some wagsish boys went into one of his meadows and cut down all the grass in it.—They also went into his potatoe patch and cut a few swaths through it. At the time of digging the potatoes they were found to be rotten, except where the boys had cut off the tops!

The Providence Transcript of Friday afternoon announces the death of the Hon. James Fenner, late Governor of Rhode Island. The deceased had attained his 77th year.

The rain in this section on Tuesday afternoon, the 30th ultimo, fell in such torrents, causing the small rivulets, especially east of this place, to swell in the course of a very minutes into fierce and angry streams, consequently, doing great injury. We have no particulars, of course, of all the losses sustained—but, the greatest sufferer that we have heard of, is Dr. Daniel Shawen. Mr. S., resided on a small run about five miles east of this place. His dwelling and Saw-Mill, together with all his household goods, were washed away, and it was with difficulty that his family were rescued from a watery grave. His loss is estimated at from six to eight hundred dollars. The Saw-Mill, belonging to Mr. William Noman, on the run, about a mile above this place, was swept off. Little Capon was very much swollen, and a great quantity of fencing along the stream was washed off, and the land very much injured. The Saw-Mill of Mr. Silas Milseson was washed down, and Mr. M. in addition lost, we are informed about 10,000 feet of plank. The hail that fell with the rain in the neighborhood of North River Mills and the Forks of Capon was very large, some of the stones the size of a hen's egg, and, nearly all the glass in the windows of the dwellings in these neighborhoods, more especially the latter neighborhood, were broken. It was the heaviest fall of rain ever known in this section of country.—Romney Intel.

Management of Pasture Lands.

Every good farmer wishes for a liberal supply of summer food for his live stock of all kinds. The most farmers are however, very unskillful in the management of pasture lands. Suppose a farmer has a large pasture of 70 or 80 acres, in which are kept the oxen, sheep, horses and cows. The question might be asked of such a farmer, whether he has a profitable dairy? We will suppose he keeps eight or ten cows, and makes butter and cheese enough to supply his own family, in favorable seasons.

Now, Farmer Thrifty will put this man upon a track that will annually put one hundred dollars into his pocket, with a fair prospect to increase the sum to one hundred and fifty or two hundred dollars. Let him sell two of his poorest cows, and the price of these will well nigh purchase the materials for an excellent fence, which will give the remaining six cows the exclusive right to fifteen or twenty acres. We must have one lot that can be shut up to grow while the cows are feeding in the other. The cows will fill themselves upon grass two or three inches in height, in a short space of time, without ranging over a large extent of ground, and thus injuring the grass by treading. A good cow, having a full supply of the rich food, will constantly yield a liberal profit. But, indeed, it has been said that lands kept constantly in pasture will become improved in fertility.—Grass lands will, however, bind out, if not occasionally ploughed.—Maine Cultivator.

Fine Horses.

The little city of Lowell is getting to be another Richmond in the beauty of its horses, some of which have gained regal attention on foreign shores. The Lowell Courier states that only a year since, a beautiful pair of well matched light grays were owned and driven through the streets of that city by Rodney Parker, Esq., which are now caparisoned with gold lace, pearls, and precious stones, and are attached to a chariot in which is seated a prince of the blood, in all the dazzling splendor of oriental magnificence, moving majestically through the streets of Calcutta. These horses, (says the Courier) were sold by Mr. Parker to a gentleman in Boston, to be shipped, for \$600, and the consignee, before they reached the wharf in Calcutta, was offered \$1,500, and refused it, for them! They were one hundred and twenty days on their passage out, perfectly healthy during this long voyage, and were the first American horses ever exported to that far country.

To Improve Pear Trees.

At a meeting of the Philadelphia Society for Promoting Agriculture, held in February, Samuel C. Ford made the following statement as to his method of improving the fruit of the pear tree. He said:—"From experience, I can state the advantage to be derived from the application of iron to the roots of pear trees.—It is known to all naturalists that iron enters largely as a component part into the fruit of the pear tree; and as many of our choicest varieties have very much deteriorated, I feel it a duty to state that my fruit has been much improved, and some that were almost worthless, restored by the following application:—During the winter, when the frost will admit, I have my trees dug round to the distance of three feet, barring the upper roots, and then have applied a bushel or more of iron filings from a blacksmith's shop—old iron would be better. This oxidizes by the rains of the season, and is taken up in the sap as it ascends in the spring. This is a simple experiment, and one that will be highly prized by all the lovers of fine fruit."